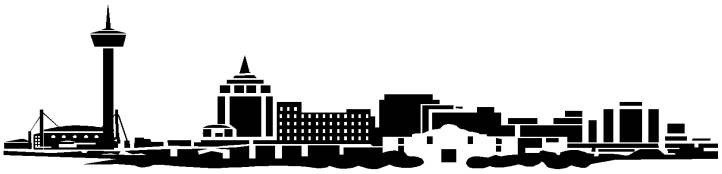
TEEN PREGNANCY REPORT:

2002 Data for Bexar County



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Teen Pregnancy Report: 2002 Data for Bexar County

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Teen pregnancy is a complex issue. Childbearing among teens—especially those of school age (under age 18)—entails health risks for the mothers and babies, social risks for the fathers, and economic costs to the community.

Bexar County's rates of school-age (age 15-17)pregnancy and childbearing are extraordinarily high, but they continue to decrease. In 2002, the rate of births to females age 15 to 17 was 43.5 per thousand--88% higher than the national rate of 23.2 per thousand. Rates of school-age childbearing have fallen 26 percent since their peak in 1994, from 58.9 per thousand to 43.5 per thousand. During this same period, school-age pregnancy rates fell 28 percent, from 76.4 per thousand to 55.3 per thousand.

Rates of school-age pregnancy and childbearing are much higher for Hispanic teens than for non-Hispanic whites. Blacks also have higher rates than do non-Hispanic whites. Childbearing rates among racial-ethnic groups in Bexar County are similar to national trends. Among Bexar County Hispanics, school-age birth rates generally have fallen since 1994; however rates rose slightly in 2002. Rates among blacks and non-Hispanic whites continue to fall.

For the youngest teens, those under age 15, Bexar County's rate of childbearing in 2002 was 1.3 per thousand—86% higher than the national rate of 0.7 per thousand. Bexar County Rates of pregnancy and childbearing among females age 10 to 14 have fallen dramatically since 1994. Pregnancy rates have fallen by 42%, and birth rates by 50% since 1994. Nevertheless, Bexar County's rate of births to females age 10 to 14 (1.3 per thousand) is 86% higher than the national rate of 0.7 per thousand.

School-age births are not evenly distributed across the county. School-age birth rates in 2002 were highest in inner-city zip codes (78207, 78202, 78205, and 78208) with high rates also observed in several west and southwest zip codes. Census tracts rates, calculated for 2000 through 2002, vary widely, as well. Higher rates are found in many census tracts with low socio-economic levels. Many Bexar County census tracts have rates three or four times the national rate—or even higher. Births to mothers under age 15, like births to older school-age mothers, are unevenly distributed across the county.

Of the school districts, San Antonio School District has, by far, the highest number of births to females under age 18. The latest year for which school-age birth rates by school district are available is 2000. Edgewood ISD and San Antonio School District evidenced the highest birth rates.

Many of the fathers of "teen births" in Bexar County are themselves not teenagers, but much information is missing on the fathers. About 15 percent of births to Bexar County school-age mothers in 2002 were second- or higher-order births. Seventeen percent of school-age mothers were married at the time of the birth. The majority (95%) of abortions performed in Bexar County are not among minors, but among older women. Among the various racial/ethnic groups, non-Hispanic whites had the highest percentage of school-age pregnancies reportedly terminated by abortion in Bexar County in 2002.

Because teen pregnancy is related to many risk factors and protective factors, other health and social data on youth are included in this report. In 2002, over 3,300 cases of reportable sexually transmitted diseases—most commonly Chlamydia—were reported among youth age 10 to 19 in Bexar County. Juvenile probation data for 2002 include 5996 cases, with drug offenses and theft the most common offenses recorded. 107 deaths were recorded for youth 10 to 19 in 2002. The most common causes of death were accidents, suicide, and homicide.

Continued progress in lowering teen pregnancy rates will be greatest with use of multiple strategies, including encouraging abstinence, supporting effective parent communication, providing contraceptive information and access, and improving the overall outlook for adolescents.

BACKGROUND

Teen pregnancy is a complex and controversial issue--one with tremendous costs for our community. The health and social risks for adolescent mothers and their children are high, including high rates of school failure, welfare dependence, child abuse, low birth weight, and infant mortality. Educational and economic outlook for the babies' fathers is also impacted[1].

This report focuses primarily on pregnancies and births to mothers of school age (i.e., those under age 18) because of the great health, economic, and educational impact of childbearing in this age group. It is estimated that, compared with childbearing at age 20 or 21, the tax costs of a birth to a mother under age 18 for one year alone are over $2800[1].

In this report, rates are calculated for age groups reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Center for Health Statistics[2,3]. The 15 to 17 year-old age group represents the bulk of school aged childbearing. Rates for the youngest teens (aged 10 to 14) are much lower, but they are nevertheless important because of their associated health and social problems.

METHODS

Birth rates are calculated using data on births from birth certificates to Bexar County residents as the numerator (times 1000) and census data (or population estimates in non-census years) for the denominator. *Pregnancy rates* include births and abortions and fetal deaths in the numerator, and census data (or population estimates in non-census years) for the denominator. Since fetal deaths are relatively rare, abortion rates account for most of the difference between pregnancy rates and birth rates.

Because birth data are derived from birth certificates, they are generally timely, detailed, and complete. Abortion data contains less information, and reporting may be less complete than for births. Data on births, abortions, fetal deaths, and population estimates for the county as a whole are based on information provided by the Texas Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics. Because of delays related to moving the Texas State Data Center, the 2002 county population estimates by age, sex, and race/ethnicity were delayed and still considered preliminary at the time this Report is published.

Zip code rates of school-age (15-17) births are calculated using 2002 birth certificate data for the numerator (times 1000), and estimates of 2002 female population age 15-17 by zip code. Zip code population estimates are from Claritas, Inc. of San Diego, CA. The zip code map is then color-coded to reflect the relationship of the zip code's rate to the 2002 U.S. overall rate of births to females age 15 to 17, 23.2 per thousand.

Calculations of *birth rates by census tract* utilize 3 years of birth data to minimize the instability of rates expected for small areas. For this report, census tract rates were calculated using births to 15 to 17 year old mothers for years 2000, 2001, and 2002. Claritas estimates for population of females age 15 to 17 by census tract in 2001 (the central year for 2000-2002) were used as denominators for these calculations. Thus, for each census tract, the following calculation was made:

$$\frac{[(\text{2000 Births to Females 15-17}) + (\text{2001 Births to Females 15-17}) + (\text{2002 Births to Females 15-17})] \div 3 \times 1000}{(\text{2001 Claritas Estimated Population of Females 15-17})}$$

The resulting census tract rate for 2000-2002 was then compared to the 2001 U.S. national rate of 24.7 births per 1000 females age 15 to 17. Census tracts are then color coded on a map according to how many multiples of the U.S. rate the census tract rate represents.

Zip code and census tract population estimates are from Claritas, Inc. of San Diego, CA. Claritas uses census data and other information to project population characteristics in non-census years. Claritas data cannot be considered as accurate as census data, but it allows estimates of zip code and census tract birth rates to be made in non-census years.

School district births are compiled from birth certificate data. Births to mothers of the appropriate age group are geocoded to the mother's address. Births are then aggregated to school district catchment areas. School district birth rates utilize this birth certificate data in the numerator. In 2000 (a census year), the population of females age 15 to 17 by school district is obtained from U.S. Census data to calculate rates by school district. In non-census years, accurate estimates of catchment area population at risk are not available.

Birth certificate data are used to extract information on the age of fathers, subsequent births, and marital status of school age mothers. Data on induced abortion is collected by the Texas Department of Health. Abortion data is not localized below the county level; thus it is not possible to calculate abortion rates or pregnancy rates by school district, zip code, or census tract.

Data on sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are available from reports to the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District for bacterial STDs (syphilis, gonorrhea, and Chlamydia), and for HIV and AIDS. Juvenile probation data are obtained from the Bexar County Juvenile Probation system. Data on deaths among youth are compiled from death certificate data.

FINDINGS

Bexar County School-age Pregnancy and Birth Rates: Trends over Time.

Birth rates and pregnancy rates in the 15 to 17 year-old age group have fallen substantially since 1994, the year that birth rates among Hispanic teens peaked for the U.S. as a whole (Figure 1). In 2002, the Bexar County birth rate for 15 to 17 year-old females was 43.5 per thousand, a *decrease of 26 percent* from the 58.9 per thousand in 1994. Bexar County's pregnancy rate for females age 15 to 17 in 2002 was 55.3 per thousand, a *decrease of 28 percent* from the 76.4 per thousand in 1994.

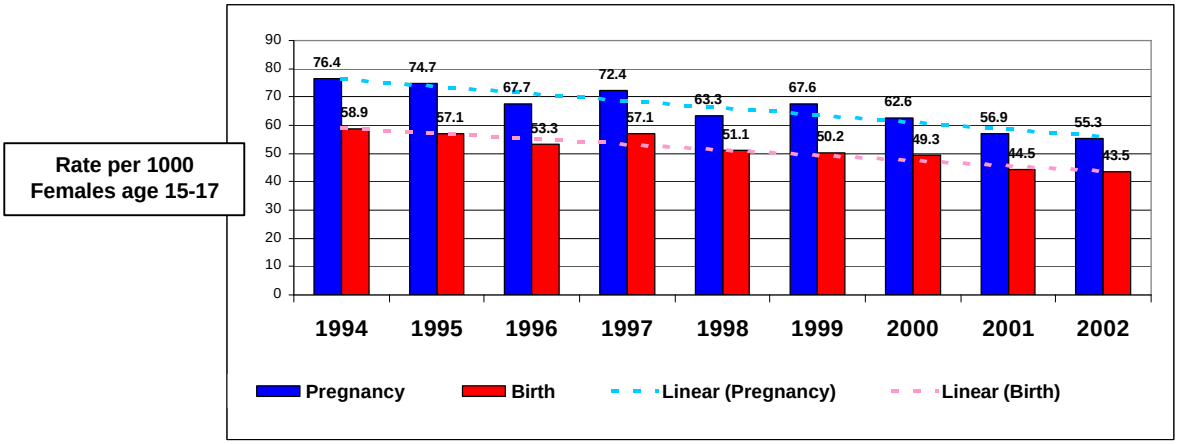


FIGURE 1. Pregnancy and Birth Rates (per 1000 females age 15 to 17), Bexar County 1994-2002

Comparison of Bexar County School-Age Birth Rates to Texas and to the U.S.

The decreases in school-age pregnancy and birth rates are encouraging and represent progress. Still, the rates of teen pregnancy in Bexar County and San Antonio are extraordinarily high, and are falling more slowly than those of the U.S. as a whole. Comparisons of Bexar County birth rates to those of the U.S. as a whole, and to Texas are presented in Figure 2.

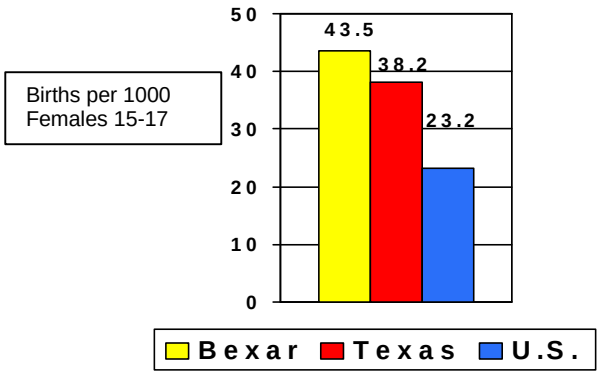


FIGURE 2. Comparison of Bexar, Texas, and U.S. School-Age Birth Rates, 2002

Bexar County school-age birth rates in 2002 were 43.5 per thousand--88% higher than the national rate of 23.2 per thousand. Bexar's rate of school-age births was 14% higher than that of Texas as a whole, and Texas' rate of 38.2 per thousand was 65% higher than the national rate. Of note, Texas' rate of births to school-age females in 2002 was the *highest of any state*, surpassing that of Mississippi for the first time[2].

Figure 3 displays the school-age birth rates for both Bexar County and the U.S. since 1992, and for Texas from 2000 to 2002. Bexar County's rates during this period of time have been remarkably higher than those of the U.S. as a whole, and consistently higher than those of Texas. It is important to note that, while national teen birth rates have been falling since their peak in 1991, Bexar County rates peaked later—in 1994. This is the year that national rates of birth to school-age Hispanic females hit their highest point. Since 1994, rates of birth to U.S. school-age Hispanic have been declining, but at a rate slower than the national rate as a whole.

Bexar County's rate of decline in school-age birth rates from 1994 to 2002 was 26%--substantially lower than the 38% decline observed in the U.S. as a whole.

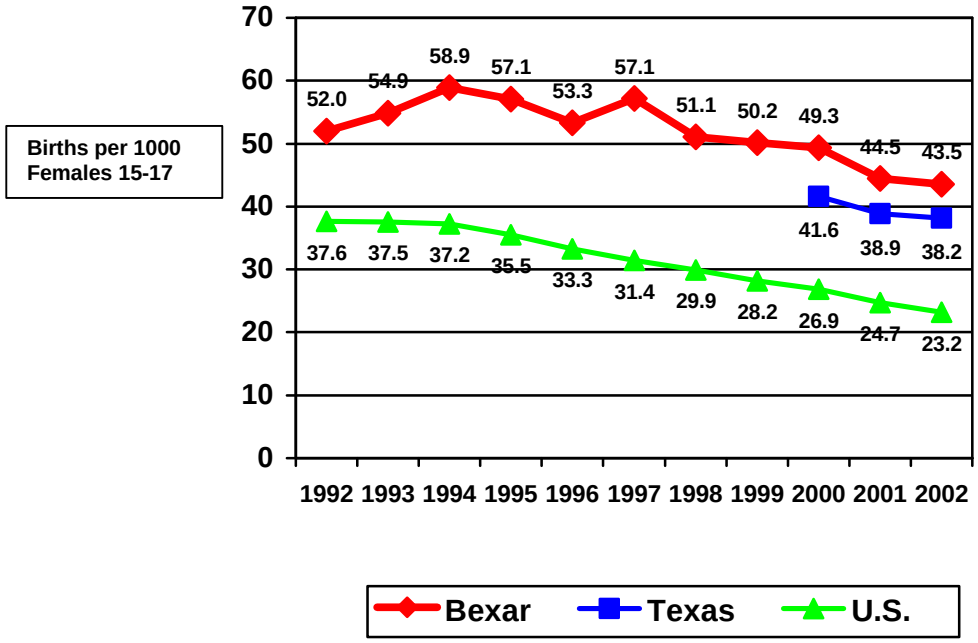


Figure 3. Birth Rates for Females 15-17, 1992-2002: Bexar, Texas, U.S.

Bexar County School-Age Birth Rates by Race/Ethnicity.

Figure 4 demonstrates how school age birth rates differ among the largest racial and ethnic groups in Bexar County, as well as their progress over the last 10 years. Birth rates for females age 15 to 17 are dramatically higher for Hispanics and blacks than they are for non-Hispanic whites ("Anglos"). Hispanic girls, in particular, have high rates of birth, and their rates have fallen less rapidly than have those of African-American girls.

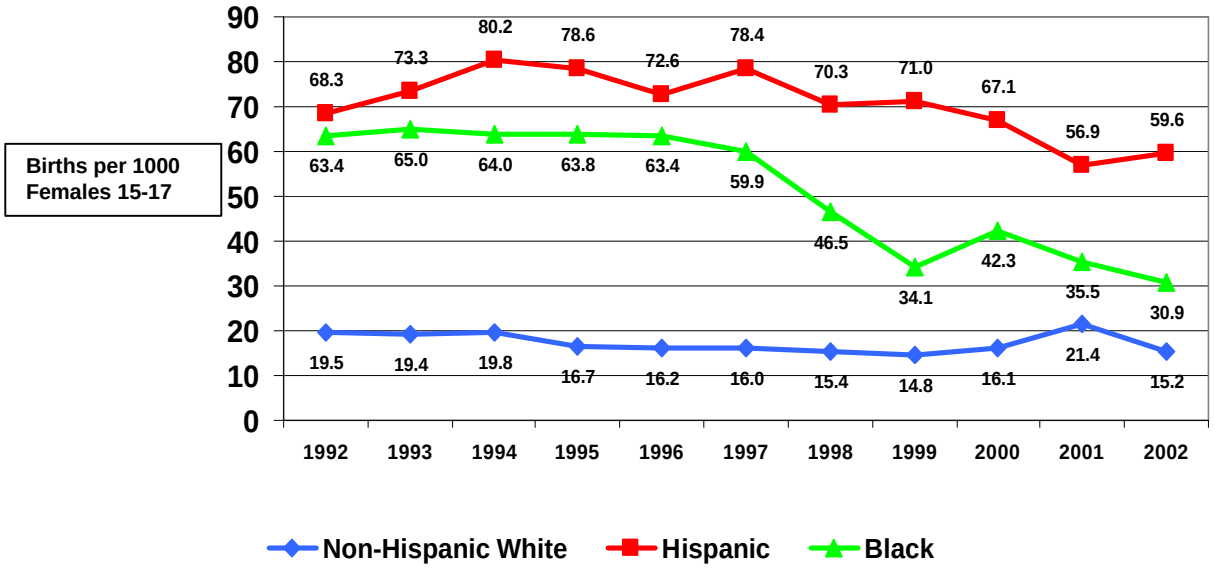


FIGURE 4. Bexar County Birth Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 1992 to 2002.
Births per 1000 females age 15 to 17

In the last year, from 2001 to 2002, the birth rate among Hispanic females age 15 to 17 increased slightly. The rate among non-Hispanic whites seemed to increase slightly in 2000 and 2001, but declined in 2002. The birth rates among black school-age females resumed its decline since 2000. It should be noted that marked variation over time of birth rates among the various race/ethnicity groups can be due to the size of the population at risk. Birth rates among smaller populations are often "unstable"—that is, they can vary markedly from year to year, based on small numbers of births.

School-Age Birth Rates by Race/Ethnicity: Bexar County vs. the U.S. over Time.

Figures 5, 6, and 7 compare school-age birth rates among the various racial and ethnic groups in Bexar County with those observed nationwide over the last 11 years. Data from these comparisons come from two sources. The Texas Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics provides the data for Bexar County, and the National Center for Health Statistics provides the data for the nation as a whole[2,3]. Definitions for Hispanic and black may differ slightly between the two agencies, so these comparisons should be considered approximate and not definitive.

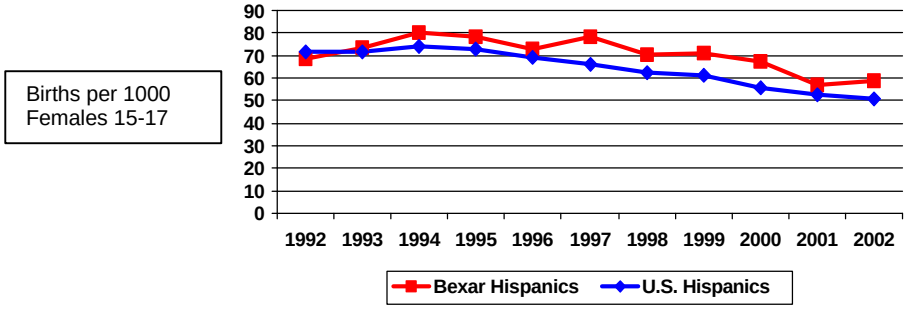


Figure 5. School-Age Birth Rates for Bexar and U.S. Hispanic Females, 1992-2002

Figure 5 demonstrates that Hispanics in San Antonio have higher rates of birth to females age 15 to 17 than do U.S. Hispanics generally. This may in part be due to the high percentage of Bexar County Hispanics who are of Mexican heritage. Of all subgroups of U.S. Hispanics, those of Mexican heritage have the highest rates of school-age childbearing[2]. Like the national Hispanic rates, rates of childbearing among Bexar County Hispanic teens are gradually falling since their peak in 1994. However, Bexar County rates, unlike national rates, increased slightly from 2001 to 2002.

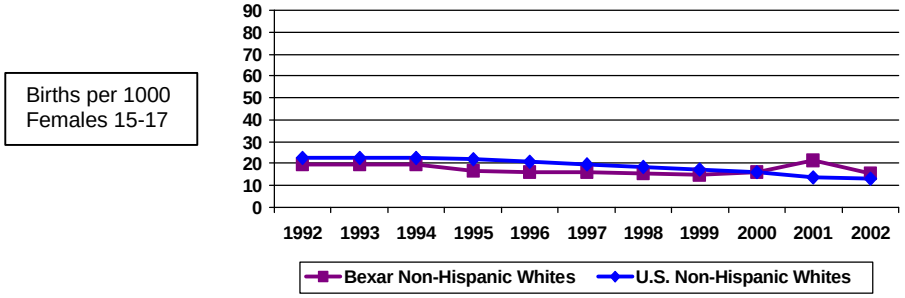


Figure 6. School-Age Birth Rates for Bexar and U.S. Non-Hispanic White Females, 1992-2002.

Figure 6 shows that birth rates for Bexar County non-Hispanic white females age 15 to 17 have been relatively low—consistently far lower than among Hispanics or blacks. Until the year 2000, school-age birth rates among non-Hispanic whites were slightly lower than national rates for non-Hispanic whites. In 2001, however, the rate of births among Bexar County non-Hispanic white females 15 to 17 appears to have increased slightly. In 2001 and 2002 the Bexar County rate was slightly higher than the national non-Hispanic white rate.

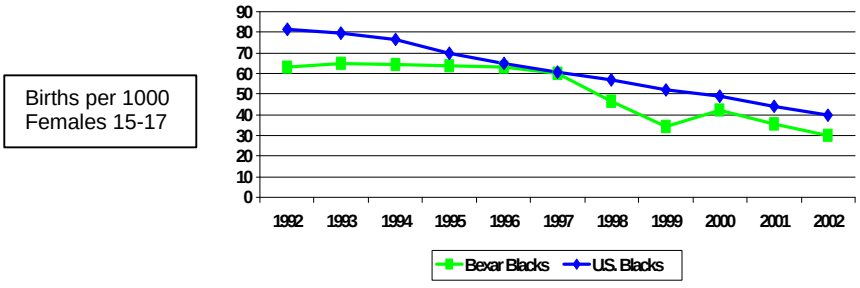


Figure 7. School-Age Birth Rates for Bexar and U.S. Black Females, 1992-2002.
Births per 1000 females age 15 to 17

Figure 7 compares the school-age birth rates over time for Bexar County blacks, versus those for blacks in the nation as a whole. In general, Bexar County black females age 15 to 17 have had lower birth rates than the national black school age population. Rates of birth to Bexar County blacks dropped dramatically between 1997 and 1999, with a slight rise in the rate noted in 2000, and drops again in 2001 and 2002. Rate changes and variations noted in smaller populations—such as Bexar County's black school-age population—should be interpreted cautiously because small variations in the number of births may have relatively large effects on calculated rates.

Bexar County Pregnancy and Birth Rates for Females 10-14: Trends over Time

While rates of childbearing among females under 15 are far lower than among those 15 to 17, these births are especially likely to represent high-risk situations, from both medical and social standpoints. The younger the teen mother, the higher is the chance that the father of her baby is substantially older than she[4]. Of particular concern is that a high percentage of girls who become mothers before age 15 have experienced childhood sexual abuse[5].

Rates of pregnancy and birth to females under age 15 are reported using the 10-14 age grouping used by the National Center for Health Statistics. Births among girls age 10 to 11 are rare, and few births occur to 12-year-olds. Nevertheless, the 10-14 age grouping is used to be able to compare rates with those calculated for the nation as a whole.

Figure 8 demonstrates the remarkable progress concerning pregnancy and births among young women under age 15. From 1994 to 2002, rates of pregnancy and birth to Bexar County females age 10 to 14 fell dramatically. Pregnancy rates fell 42%, from 3.1 per thousand in 1992 to 1.8 per thousand in 2002. Rates of birth fell an astonishing 50%, from 2.6 per thousand to 1.3 per thousand.

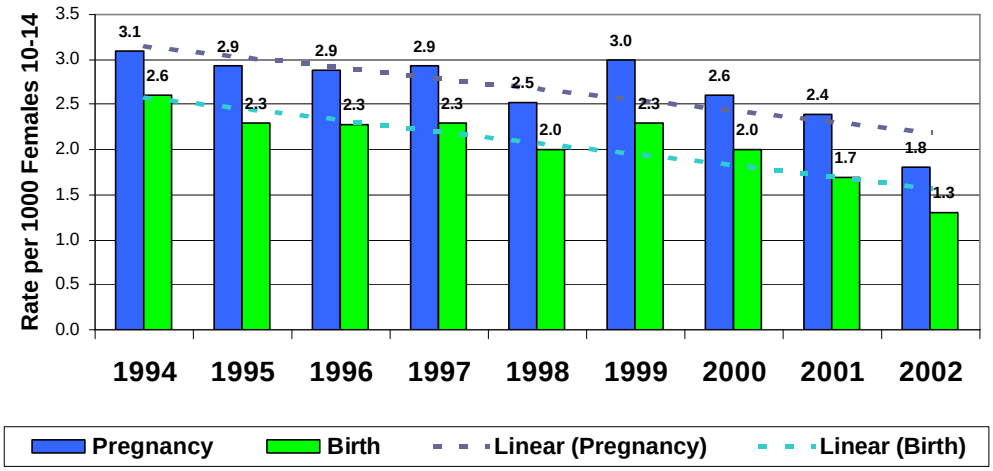


Figure 8. Pregnancy and Birth Rates (per 1000 females age 10 to 14)
Bexar County 1994-2002

Comparison of Bexar to Texas and U.S. in Birth Rates among Females under 15

Although both pregnancy and birth rates in this age group are declining in Bexar County, the rates are still dramatically higher than the country as a whole. As depicted in Figure 9, in 2002, the birth rate of 1.3 per thousand among 10 to 14-year old Bexar County females was 86% higher than the national rate of 0.7 per thousand. The Texas rate in 2002 was 1.2 per thousand—71% higher than the national rate. Bexar's rate of births to females 10-14 was about 8 percent higher than that of Texas.

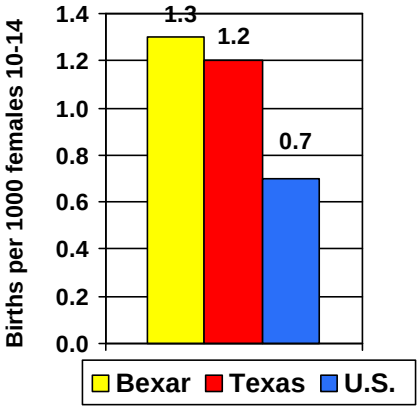


FIGURE 9. Comparison of Bexar, Texas, and U.S. Birth Rates to Females 10-14 for 2002

Figure 10 shows both Bexar County and U.S. rates of birth to females under age 15 over the last 11 years. Bexar County's birth rate for females age 10 to 14 peaked in 1994, and declined dramatically since then. *Since 1994, Bexar County's rate of births to females age 10 to 14 has fallen 50%, as has the U.S. rate of births in this age group.* However, while outstanding progress has been made, Bexar's rates remain conspicuously higher than those of the nation as a whole.

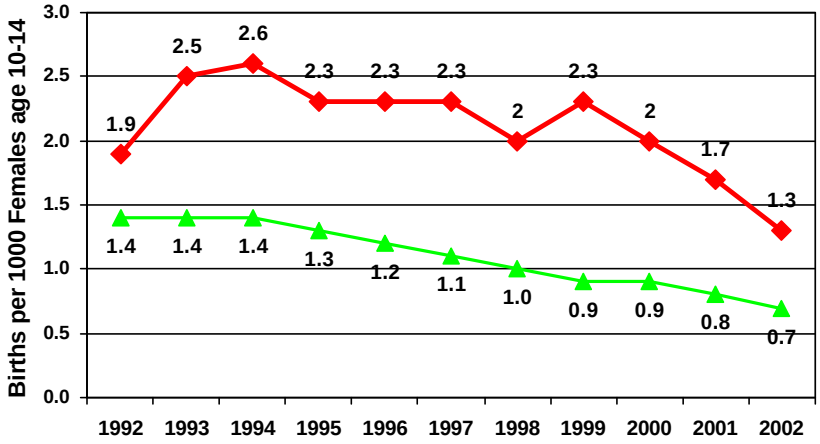


FIGURE 10. Bexar County, U.S. Birth Rates, Females 10-14, 1992-2002.

School-Age Birth Rates by Zip Code

Because Claritas population estimates by zip code became available for 2002, this Teen Pregnancy Report is able to include a zip code map of school-age birth rates. It is important to remember that smaller populations are likely to have "unstable" rates, so that a difference of a few births can make a large difference in the rates calculated.

As shown in Figure 11, school-age birth rates in 2002 were highest in inner-city zip codes. Zip codes 78207, 78202, 78205, and 78208 each have calculated rates over 4 times the 2002 national rate of 23.2 births per thousand. Rates in several west and southwest zip codes were calculated to have rates 3 to 4 times the national rate, and rates higher than the national rate were calculated for many Bexar zip codes.

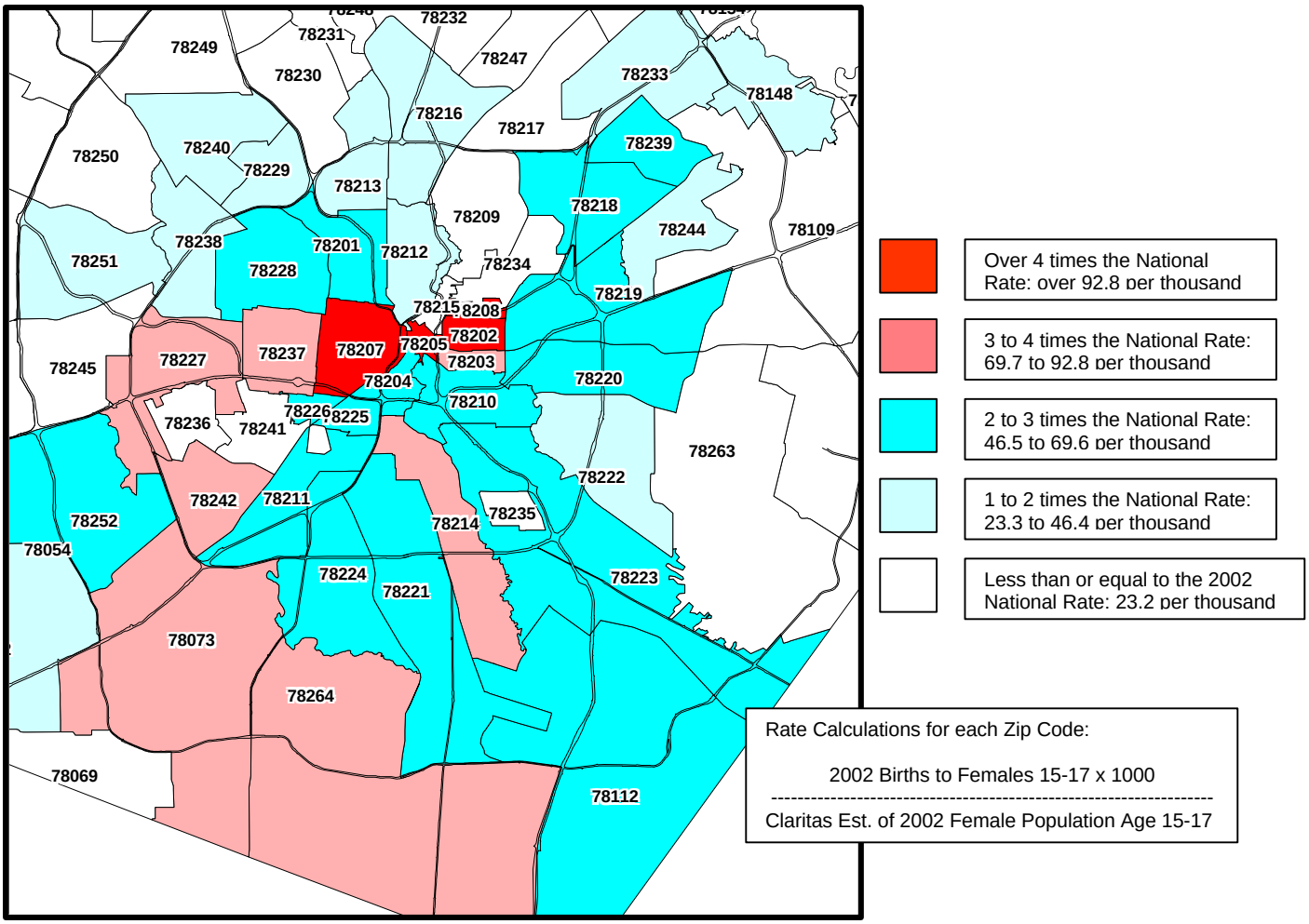


Figure 11. 2002 Birth Rates for Females 15-17 by Zip Code for Bexar County

School-Age Birth Rates by Census Tract

Census tracts are smaller than zip codes, and analysis of census tract rates can highlight smaller areas of high risk for adolescent childbearing. Figure 12 depicts birth rates for females age 15 to 17 by census tract, with color coding to reflect how each tract's rates compare to the national rate, which for the year 2001 was 24.7 per thousand. Figure 12 makes clear that the risk of adolescent childbearing is not uniformly distributed across the county. Census tracts with the highest rates tend to be closest to the inner city, although numerous high-risk outlying tracts exist. Generally, tracts with lower average socioeconomic status—often those with high percentages of minority residents—tend to have higher rates.

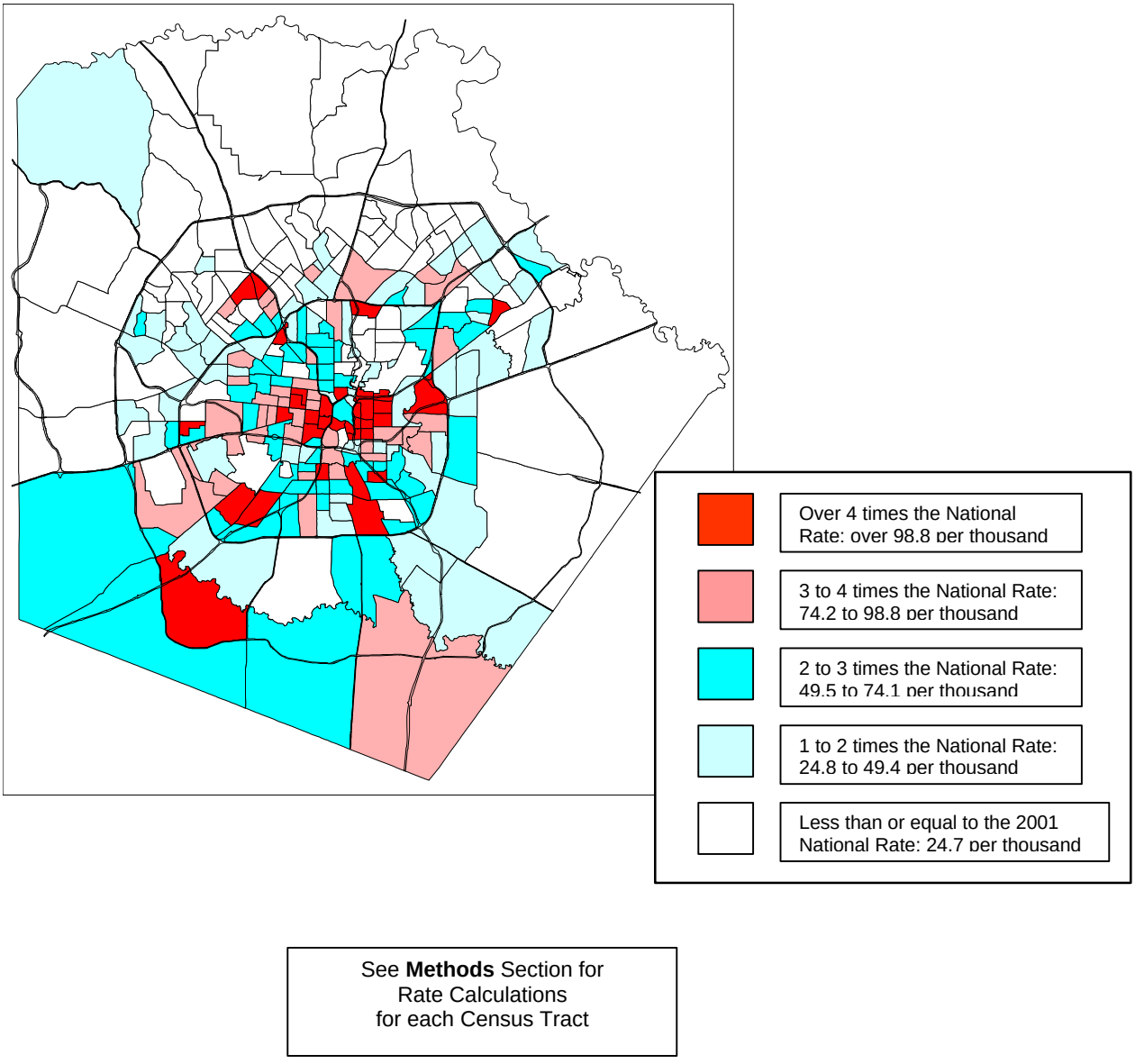


Figure 12. 2000-2002 Birth Rate for Females 15-17 by Census Tract, Bexar County

Births to females under age 15 by Zip Code and by Race/Ethnicity

Figure 13 displays numbers of births to mothers under age 15 by zip code. Because of the low numbers of births each year, this map includes births over 5 years' time. Rates are not calculated because of the low overall numbers. Once again, census tracts with high numbers tend to be in areas with more socioeconomic difficulties.

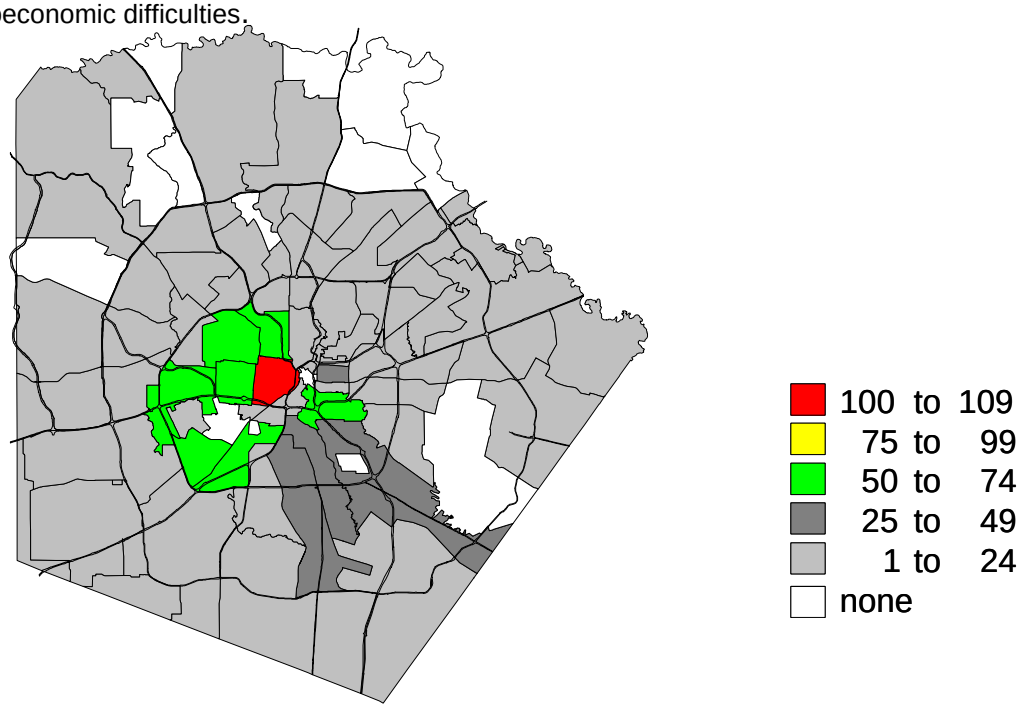


Figure 13. Births to Females under age 15 for Bexar County. Cumulative Total for Years 1998 to 2002 by Zip Code

Table 1 displays the data on number of births to mothers under age 15 by race/ethnicity for the county as a whole over this time period. The number of births to mothers under age 15 has fallen each year since 1999. Since 1990, the majority (84%) of births to mothers under age 15 have been to Hispanic girls.

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	1990-2002
Hispanic	72	81	85	106	110	101	103	96	93	106	84	76	63	**1176**
Non-Hispanic White	8	12	4	8	10	5	5	7	5	3	6	8	2	**83**
Black	9	3	5	8	15	16	17	12	6	11	6	5	8	**121**
Other	2	2	1	0	2	0	0	4	7	3	4	1	0	**26**
Total Births	91	98	95	122	137	122	125	119	111	123	100	90	73	**1406**

Table 1. Births to Mothers under age 15 by Year by Race/Ethnicity

Births by School District.

Table 2 displays the number of births to school age mothers in Bexar County in 2002 by school district. The school district with the highest number of school age births, by far, is San Antonio School District with 559 births to females under age 18 in 2002. The next highest number of school-age births is in Northside Independent School District, with 242. It should be noted that the total for Bexar County shown at the bottom of Table 2 does not represent simply the sum of the births in each school district; this total includes births for which the school district is unknown or unspecified.

Larger school districts can be expected to have higher numbers of school-age births because of their size, and it is valuable to estimate rates of birth by school district. However, estimating rates requires quantifying the population at risk for the denominator of the calculation, and this information is not available in non-census years.

DISTRICT	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15	Age 16	Age 17	Total Births <18
Alamo Heights	0	0	1	0	4	4	**9**
East Central	0	0	4	2	6	23	**35**
Edgewood	0	0	4	25	38	49	**116**
Fort Sam Houston	0	0	0	0	0	1	**1**
Harlandale	0	1	5	16	39	53	**114**
Judson	2	0	2	6	23	27	**60**
Lackland	0	0	0	0	0	0	**-**
North East	1	0	5	19	53	75	**153**
Northside	0	1	3	33	79	126	**242**
Randolph Field	0	0	0	0	0	0	**-**
San Antonio	1	3	30	82	190	253	**559**
Somerset[†]	0	0	4	3	5	6	**18**
South San Antonio	0	0	2	17	23	39	**81**
Southside	0	0	2	7	10	19	**38**
Southwest	0	0	2	10	30	23	**65**
Bexar County Total*	**4**	**5**	**64**	**224**	**503**	**706**	**1,506**

Table 2. 2002 School-Age Births by Age of Mother & School District, Bexar County

Table 3 displays the numbers of births in each Bexar County school district for the years 1992 to 2002. These births include all those to mothers under age 18, including those under age 15. It should be noted that the total for Bexar County shown at the bottom of Table 3 does not represent simply the sum of the births in each school district; the total includes unknown and unspecified births in addition to those categorized by school district.

School District	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Alamo Heights	11	12	12	8	6	3	7	4	10	12	9
East Central	21	27	24	28	32	34	37	38	31	28	35
Edgewood	163	163	195	176	140	152	151	150	149	125	116
Ft. Sam Houston	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Harlendale	122	147	152	133	135	151	120	134	114	110	114
Judson	43	38	56	62	56	64	40	49	59	49	60
Lackland AFB	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	-	-
Northeast	103	147	149	150	175	168	146	159	176	155	153
Northside	177	215	254	239	246	288	257	204	242	280	242
Randolph Field	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
San Antonio	607	650	673	695	659	692	568	587	595	569	559
Somerset	6	4	2	4	6	12	12	12	8	15	18
South San Antonio	93	89	94	103	94	76	98	93	80	78	81
Southside	14	17	11	24	22	16	26	27	16	36	38
Southwest	62	49	66	78	71	72	77	77	82	81	65
Not Specified	45	46	55	35	42	54	9	-	30	35	15
Bexar County Total*	**1,468**	**1,606**	**1,746**	**1,737**	**1,685**	**1,784**	**1,549**	**1,535**	**1,593**	**1,573**	**1,506**

Table 3. Births to Mothers Under 18 by School District, Bexar County 1992-2002

Table 4 displays the school-age birth rates (i.e., the rate of births to females 15 to 17) by school district for 2000. 2000 is the latest year for which rate calculations are available, since census data is needed for the calculation. The district with the highest rate in 2000 was Edgewood Independent School District, with 85.1 births per 1000 females age 15 to 17. San Antonio School District has the second highest rate (77.9 births per thousand), followed by Southwest, Harlandale, and South San Antonio districts.

DISTRICT	2000 Rate
Alamo Heights	17.8
East Central	33.9
Edgewood	85.1
Ft. Sam Houston	0.0
Harlendale	67.9
Judson	30.3
Lackland AFB	0.0
Northeast	29.7
Northside	28.7
Randolph Field	13.2
San Antonio	77.9
Somerset	40.0
South San Antonio	67.3
Southside	41.2
Southwest	70.7
Bexar County Total*	49.3

Table 4. Birth Rates to Females 15 to 17 by School District, Bexar 2000

Age of Fathers of Babies Born to School-Age Mothers

While we identify a "teen" pregnancy by the age of the mother, the fathers of such pregnancies may not be teens themselves. Some fathers of babies born to school-age mothers are adults (i.e., over age 18), and some are in their 20's, or even older.

Table 5 displays school age births by age of father for each school district, while Figure 14 shows percentage of fathers by age group for the county as a whole. For 32% of school-age births, the age of the father is not known. 34% of the fathers of known age are adults (over age 18), and 15% are 21 or older.

DISTRICT	Total School Aged Births	13 yrs	14 yrs	15 yrs	16 yrs	17 yrs	18 yrs	19-20 yrs	21-24 yrs	25 + yrs	Unknown
Alamo Heights	9	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	5
East Central	35	0	0	1	0	7	10	2	2	1	12
Edgewood	116	0	1	3	15	18	16	19	14	2	28
Fort Sam Houston	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Harlandale	114	0	0	3	8	18	18	22	11	6	28
Judson	60	0	1	1	2	5	10	9	6	1	25
Lackland	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North East	153	0	2	4	9	17	19	28	15	6	53
Northside	242	0	0	5	17	28	29	49	27	9	78
Randolph Field	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Antonio	557	2	1	10	25	75	64	110	57	25	190
Somerset	18	0	0	0	1	2	1	4	4	0	6
South San Antonio	81	0	1	2	4	13	11	16	11	3	20
Southside	38	0	0	0	2	7	5	9	5	2	8
Southwest	65	0	0	0	6	7	8	10	7	6	21
Other						2		5	2		6
Total	**1,506**	**2**	**6**	**29**	**89**	**200**	**193**	**284**	**162**	**61**	**480**

Table 5. 2002 School-Age Births (Mothers under 18) by Age of Father & School District

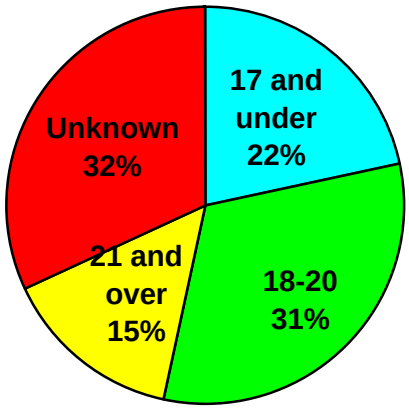


Figure 14. Age of Fathers of Babies born to Females under age 18, Bexar County 2002

Figure 15 demonstrates that the younger the teen mother, the less likely that the age of the father of the baby is provided on the birth certificate.

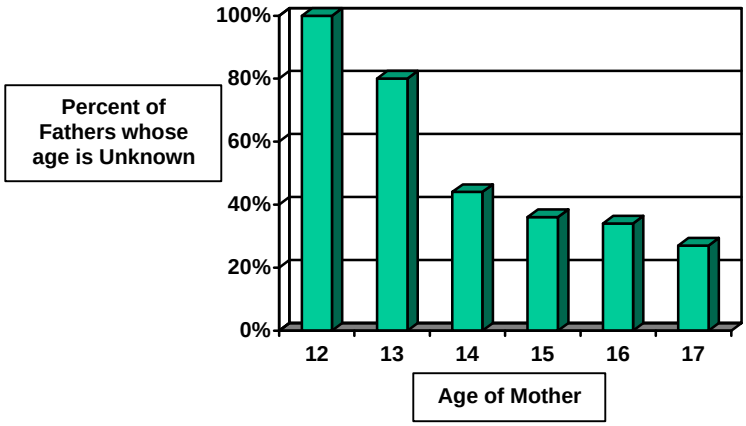


Figure 15. Fathers of Babies born to Mothers under age 18. Percent whose Age in Unknown, Bexar County 2002

Subsequent Births

Information on subsequent births (i.e., second-, third-, or higher order births) to school-age mothers is provided in Table 6. Having a second (or more) child as an adolescent teen is particularly likely to affect a young woman's chances of completing high school[1]. Approximately 15 percent of school-age births in Bexar County in 2002 were second or third births. Most (75%) of these subsequent births occurred in 17 year olds.

	Second Birth				Third Birth				
DISTRICT	**Age 14**	**Age 15**	**Age 16**	**Age 17**	**Age 14**	**Age 15**	**Age 16**	**Age 17**	**Total**
Alamo Heights	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	**3**
East Central	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	**4**
Edgewood	0	1	5	9	0	0	0	2	**17**
Fort Sam Houston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Harlandale	1	2	1	13	0	0	0	2	**19**
Judson	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	**5**
Lackland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
North East	0	0	2	15	0	0	0	1	**18**
Northside	0	2	3	18	0	0	2	2	**27**
Randolph Field	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
San Antonio	1	7	19	60	0	0	2	8	**97**
Somerset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
South San Antonio	0	0	4	9	0	0	0	0	**13**
Southside	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	**5**
Southwest	1	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	**8**
Bexar County Total‡	**4**	**14**	**39**	**141**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**17**	**219**

Table 6. 2002 Subsequent Births to Mother under age 18 by School District and Maternal Age

Percent of School-Age Mothers who are Married

Some childbearing among school-age mothers occurs in the setting of marriage. Table 7 displays information on the percent of adolescents under age 18 giving birth who are married at the time of the birth, by racial-ethnic group. The majority of school-age mothers are single in all groups. Hispanic mothers were more likely to be married (17%) than their non-Hispanic white (10%) counterparts. Black mothers are less likely to be married (4%) at the time their baby is born.

	Total Number of Births	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15	Age 16	Age 17
Hispanic	1,256	2	4	57	197	426	570
Hispanic Married	215			4	28	60	123
Hispanic Single Mother	1,041	2	4	53	169	366	447
Percent Married Hispanic	17%	0%	0%	7%	14%	14%	22%
Non-Hispanic White	136		1	1	14	41	79
NHW Married	14				1	2	11
NHW Single Mother	122	0	1	1	13	39	68
Percent Married NHW	10%			0%	7%	5%	14%
Black	84	2	0	6	11	24	41
Black Married	3					2	1
Black Single Mother	81	2	0	6	11	22	40
Percent Married Black	4%			0%	0%	8%	2%
Other	30				2	12	16
Other Married	24				2	10	12
Other Single Mother	6	0	0	0	0	2	4
Percent Married Other	80%				100%	83%	75%
All	1,506	4	5	64	224	503	706
Overall Married	256	-	-	4	31	74	147
Overall Single Mother	1,250	4	5	60	193	429	559
Overall Percent Married	**17%**	**0%**	**0%**	**6%**	**14%**	**15%**	**21%**

Table 7. Percent of School-Age Mothers Giving Birth who are Married by Race/Ethnicity, Bexar County 2002

Induced Abortion by Age and by Race/Ethnicity

Table 8 provides data on induced abortions in Bexar County by age for the years 1992 through 2002. As is clear from the table, most abortions in Bexar County occur in adult women, not in school-age females. Only 5% of abortions recorded in 2002 occurred among minors.

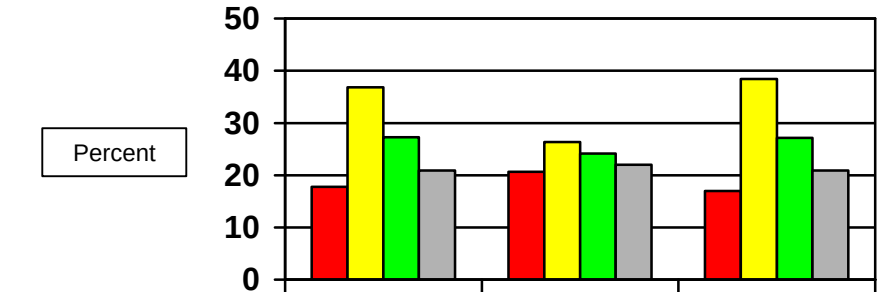
The apparent increase in the number of abortions performed in 1998 appears to be as a result of changes in reporting. A sudden increase in abortions reported without recording the age of the woman occurred in that year. In 1999, reports of abortions performed for women of unknown age declined dramatically, while the numbers increased in each age category. Abortions then appeared to continue their decline in number from 1999 to 2000. From 2000 to 2001, no decrease in number of abortions is apparent, but the decline resumed in 2002.

Age	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
< 15	33	27	23	31	30	31	26	37	28	41	25
15 - 17	477	426	470	496	429	443	359	502	392	394	381
18 - 19	946	839	811	836	823	897	714	1,002	912	909	801
20 - 24	2,648	2,402	2,426	2,308	2,216	2,284	2,005	2,895	3,088	3,027	2,884
25 - 29	1,556	1,350	1,285	1,460	1,522	1,559	1,419	1,842	1,744	1,772	1,658
30 - 34	943	874	836	813	775	773	715	967	948	993	1,053
35 - 39	486	398	399	423	498	493	459	568	532	572	534
40 +	157	135	155	140	148	152	152	191	212	208	210
Age Unknown	-	1	2	1	8	18	2,008	52	49	53	31
Bexar County Total	**7,246**	**6,452**	**6,407**	**6,508**	**6,449**	**6,650**	**7,857**	**8,056**	**7,905**	**7,969**	**7,577**

Table 8. Induced Termination of Pregnancy 1992-2002, Bexar County, by Age

Figure 16 displays the percentages of school-age pregnancies that end in abortion, by racial-ethnic group for 2000 through 2002. Of the racial-ethnic groups, non-Hispanic white adolescents were the most likely to end a pregnancy with an induced abortion.

Hispanic females under age 18 were less likely to obtain an abortion if pregnant than were non-Hispanic white females. However, because of the high percentage of pregnancies that occur among Hispanic adolescents, the highest number of induced abortions occurred in this group. Black females under age 18 were somewhat less likely than non-Hispanic white females, but more likely than were Hispanic females, to obtain an abortion if pregnant.



	2000	2001	2002
Hispanic	17.8	20.7	17
Non-Hispanic White	36.8	26.4	38.4
Black	27.3	24.2	27.2
Total	20.9	22.0	20.9

Figure 16. Percent of School-Age Pregnancies Ending in Abortion by Race/Ethnicity, Bexar County 2000-2002

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Because it reflects youth taking risks, teen pregnancy is related to other youth health problems. Sexually active youth are often at risk for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Compared to the extensive birth-certificate data on births, data on STDs are limited. Reporting is required for only some STDs, and reporting is generally incomplete.

Figure 17 displays Bexar County data on syphilis, gonorrhea, Chlamydia, and HIV/AIDS in youth age 10-19 by zip code. These findings must be interpreted with caution. They represent only reportable bacterial infections plus HIV/AIDS, and do not include common STDs such as genital herpes, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) or genital warts, or Trichomoniasis. In addition, reporting is far from complete for the diseases that are reportable. Many reports are received from the Juvenile Detention facility because a screening program exists for that population. STDs among youth in more affluent areas of the county are probably less likely to be reported in this system.

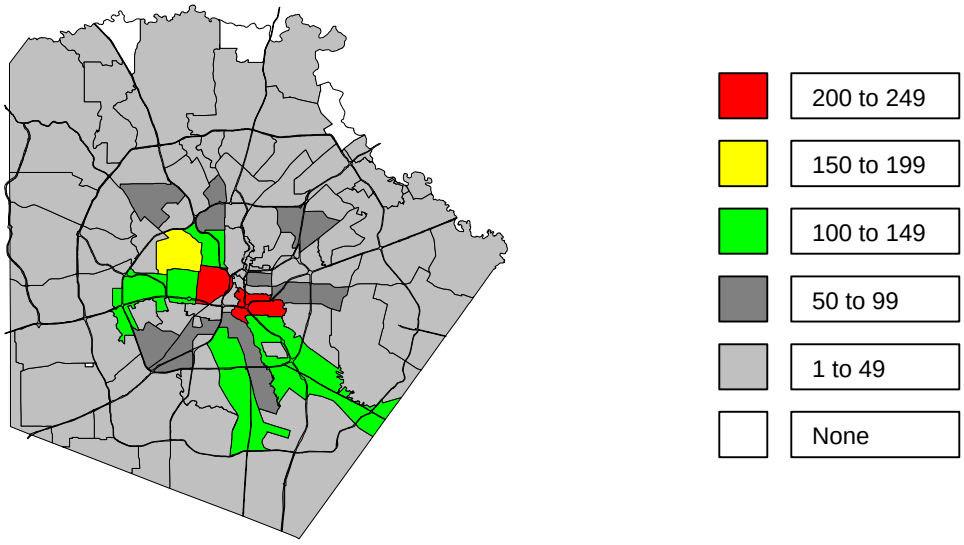


Figure 17. STDs among Bexar County Youth age 10-19 by Zip Code, 2002

Table 9 displays available data concerning the age of reported cases of syphilis, gonorrhea, Chlamydia, HIV and AIDS. Over 3,000 cases were reported in 2002. Reports are more commonly received for older teens (age 18 and 19), but STD reports are received for youth as young as 12. Chlamydia is, by far, the most commonly reported of the STDs.

Age	Early Syphilis	Total Syphilis	Gonorrhea	Chlamydia	AIDS	HIV	Total
10			0	4			4
11			3	4			7
12			3	21			24
13			13	40			53
14			26	155			181
15			54	305			359
16	4	5	89	387		1	486
17	4	5	135	498		1	643
18	3	3	177	729	1	3	916
19	1	1	146	501	1	2	652
Total	12	14	646	2,644	2	7	3325

Table 9. Reported Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Bexar County 2002, Ages 10-19

Juvenile Probation Data

Teen pregnancy is related to many other risk behaviors, including substance abuse and getting in trouble with the law. Risks for teen pregnancy are affected by risk behavior among young men, as well as among females. Figure 17 and Tables 14 through 17 present 2002 data that is available from the Juvenile Probation system in Bexar County. Data are included for both males and females, ages 10 to 16.

Figure 17 shows the number of juvenile probation cases by zip code. The zip code with the highest number of cases (over 300) is 78207, with several other Westside zip codes registering 100 to 299 cases.

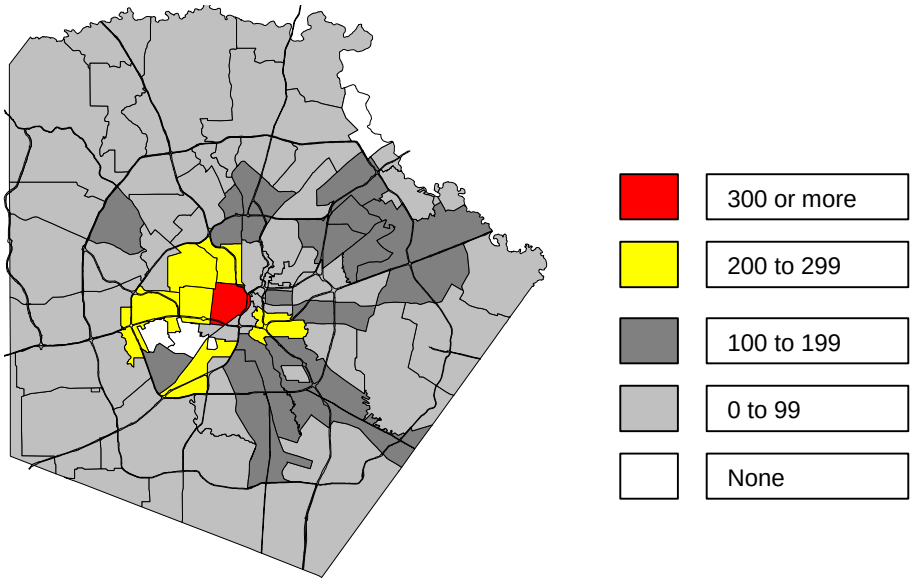


Figure 17. Bexar County 2002 Juvenile Probation Cases by Zip Code
Referrals identified by zip code as Bexar County residents

Table 10 displays juvenile probation cases by age and sex. The juvenile probation system serves youth aged 10 to 16. Older age youth represent higher numbers of cases. Males account for 67% of the total cases in 2002.

Age	Female	Male	Total
10	12	30	42
11	38	114	152
12	157	272	429
13	284	503	787
14	429	834	1,263
15	536	1,048	1,584
16	532	1,207	1,739
Total	1,988	4,008	5,996

Table 10. Bexar County 2002 Juvenile Probation Cases by Age and Sex

Table 11 shows probation cases by race/ethnicity. The majority of cases (72%) are among Hispanics.

	# Probationers	% of Total
Black	670	11%
Hispanic	4289	72%
Non Hispanic White	993	17%
Asian	11	0%
Indian	5	0%
Other	28	0%
Total	5996	100%

Table 11. Bexar County 2002 Juvenile Probation Cases by Race/Ethnicity

Table 12 lists the offenses of juvenile probationers. Drug offenses (16%) and theft (15%) are the most common. "Other misdemeanors" is the next most common category (12%), followed by assault (10%).

OFFENSE	# Offenses	% of Total
Aggravated Assault	100	2%
All Sexual Assaults	106	2%
Alternative Ed Expulsion *	232	4%
Assault	629	10%
Attempted Homicide	1	0%
Burglary	190	3%
Contempt of Magistrate order *	646	11%
Disorderly Conduct	2	0%
Drug Offenses	958	16%
DWI and DUID *	6	0%
Homicide	3	0%
Inhalants *	1	0%
Liquor Laws *	52	1%
Motor Vehicle Theft	78	1%
Other CINS *	546	9%
Other Felony	196	3%
Other Misdemeanors	743	12%
Robbery	24	0%
Status Only -Runaway	72	1%
Status Only-Truancy	54	1%
Theft *	918	15%
Violation of Probation	334	6%
Weapons violations	105	2%
Total	5996	100%

Table 12. Bexar County 2002 Juvenile Probation Cases by Offense

Causes of Death Among Youth

A total of 107 deaths were recorded for youth age 10 to 19 in 2002 in Bexar County. Figure 18 displays the number of deaths by age. Higher numbers of deaths are recorded for youth age 17 to 19 than for younger ages.

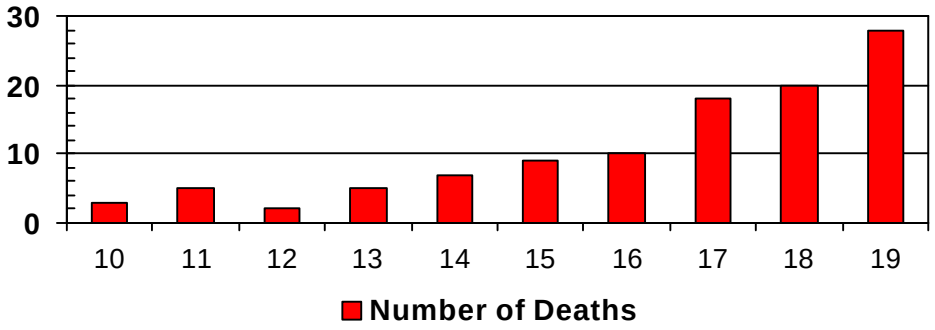


Figure 18. Deaths for Youth ages 10 to 19: Bexar County, 2002

Detailed causes of death are listed in Table 18. Table 19 summarizes the most common causes of death among youth. Accidents are the most common cause of death (33%), followed by suicide (11%) and homicide (12%). Reducing mortality among youth will require attention to behavioral and mental health issues.

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Motor vehicle accidents	26	24%
Homicide	21	20%
Suicide	13	12%
All other diseases (Residual)	12	11%
Malignant neoplasms	10	9%
All other accidents and adverse events	9	8%
Perinatal, Congenital Malformations or Chromosomal Abnormalities	5	5%
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere	4	4%
Septicemia	2	2%
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	2	2%
Cerebrovascular diseases	1	1%
Diseases of heart	1	1%
All other external causes	1	1%
Total	107	100%

Table 13. Causes of Death in 2002 for Ages 10 to 19

CATEGORY	# of Deaths	% of Total
Accidents	35	33%
Suicide	12	11%
Homicide	13	12%
Neoplasms	10	9%
Other Diseases	37	35%
Total	107	100%

Table 19. Summary of Deaths ages 10 to 19

COMMENT

Bexar County is making progress in its efforts to lower teen pregnancy rates, but there is still much work to be done. Teen pregnancy is a complex behavioral and social phenomenon, related to both positive and negative factors in young people's lives.

The evidence is clear that young people will make better decisions for themselves when they feel connected to family and school; when they have lots of caring adults involved in their lives; and when they perceive healthy social "norms" [6,7]. Proven programs are available and effective, and include the Teen Outreach Program, and others[8].

Communities must do lots of things to build on the progress of recent years and reduce teen pregnancy rates. Promotion of abstinence is important, as is knowledge about and access to condoms and contraception. Surveys show that parents endorse an "abstinence-plus" approach and that youth do not get a "mixed message" from discussing both abstinence and contraception[9]. Youth who are sexually active need screening for STDs, and medical recommendations are that adolescents should have access to confidential care[10-14].

Reducing teen pregnancy requires more than attention to abstinence and contraception. Parents must be empowered and encouraged to communicate effectively with their children. All adults in the community can contribute to the futures of youth in their lives by devoting time and energy to building developmental "assets" for youth[15]. Young people need to be valued and engaged in improving their community[16].

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